

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device comprising:  
  
a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a third electrode ~~that intersects~~, the third electrode intersecting the electrode pair first and second electrodes to define a discharge cell; and  
  
a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first electrode and second electrode so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein~~ and  
  
the drive unit ~~changes a~~ changing potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge.
2. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 1, wherein  
  
the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge is a decrease from a potential V1 to a potential V2.
3. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 2, wherein  
  
the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode from a potential V0 to the potential V1 in the sustain period.
4. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 3, wherein  
  
the potentials V0 and V2 are equal.
5. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 3, wherein  
  
the potentials V0 and V2 are set in a range that will not cause ~~[[a]]~~ discharge to occur between the third electrode and the first electrode or second electrode.

6. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 1, wherein  
a waveform of the voltage applied to the third electrode in the sustain period is a pulse waveform, and  
the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge corresponds to a fall in the pulse waveform.
7. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 1, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a period equal to 80 % of a time constant of the sustain discharge.
8. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 1, wherein  
the ~~electrode pair~~ first electrode and second electrode is provided on a first substrate, and  
the third electrode is provided on a second substrate that is disposed facing the first substrate across a discharge space.
9. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 8, wherein  
one of the first and second electrodes ~~in the pair~~ is a scan electrode and the other electrode ~~in the pair~~ is a sustain electrode, and  
the third electrode is a data electrode.
10. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 1, wherein  
a waveform of the voltage applied to the first electrode and second electrode pair in the sustain period has a slope requiring a duration T to at least one of rise and fall.
11. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 10, wherein  
T is in a range having a width of  $\pm 20\%$  with respect to a reference value in a range of 250 nsec to 800 nsec.

12. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 11, wherein  
the reference value of T is in a range of 250 nsec to 500 nsec.
13. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 10, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and second electrode in  
the sustain period is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low  
potentials, the high periods being of equal duration to the low periods, and  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$   
to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second  
electrode begins to change.
14. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 13, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 occurs in a range  
of  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first  
electrode and second electrode begins to change.
15. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 13, wherein  
the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential V1 to a potential V2  
in the range.
16. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 13, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage  
waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.
17. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 10, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and second electrode in  
the sustain period is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low  
potentials, the high periods being longer than the low periods, and

the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of  $T - 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first electrode and second electrode begins to change.

18. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 17, wherein the change in the potential of the third electrode from  $V1$  to  $V2$  occurs in a range of  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first electrode and second electrode begins to change.

19. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 17, wherein the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential  $V1$  to a potential  $V2$  in the range.

20. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 17, wherein the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.

21. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 10, wherein the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and second electrode in the sustain period is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low potentials, the high periods being shorter than the low periods, and

the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of (i)  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.35 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second electrode begins to rise, or (ii)  $T - 0.45 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second electrode begins to fall.

22. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 21, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 occurs in a range  
of (i)  $T + 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first  
and second electrode begins to rise, or (ii)  $T - 0.35 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage  
waveform applied to at least one of the first electrode and second electrode begins to fall.

23. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 21, wherein  
the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential V1 to a potential V2  
in the range.

24. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 21, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage  
waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.

25. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:  
a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode, and a  
third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair first and second  
electrode to define a discharge cell; and

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period  
and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a  
voltage to the first electrode pair, and second electrode so as to generate a sustain discharge  
between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein~~ and

the drive unit ~~changes a~~ changing potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1  
prior to the sustain discharge, and from V1 to V2 after the sustain discharge, ~~[[and]]~~

the potentials V0, V1 and V2 ~~[[are]]~~ being set so that  $V1 > V0$  and  $V1 > V2$ , or  
 $V0 > V1$  and  $V2 > V1$ .

26. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 25, wherein  
the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1 prior to  
a first sustain discharge, sustains the potential V1, and decreases the potential of the third  
electrode from V1 to V2 after a second sustain discharge that is subsequent to the first sustain  
discharge.

27. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 25, wherein  
the drive unit decreases the potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1 prior to  
a first sustain discharge, sustains the potential V1, and increases the potential of the third  
electrode from V1 to V2 after a second sustain discharge that is subsequent to the first sustain  
discharge.

28. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 25, wherein  
one of the electrodes ~~in the pair~~ of the first electrode and second electrode is a  
scan electrode ~~[[and]]~~ the other electrode ~~in the pair~~ is a sustain electrode, and  
the third electrode is a data electrode.

29. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 25, wherein  
a cycle of the voltage waveform applied to the third electrode in the sustain period  
is an integer multiple of a cycle of the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and  
second electrode.

30. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 29, wherein  
one of the electrodes in the ~~pair~~ first electrode and second electrode is a scan  
electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ the other electrode ~~in the pair~~ is a sustain electrode, and  
the third electrode is a data electrode.

31. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 25, wherein  
a binding capacity of the first electrode with the third electrode is different from a  
binding capacity of the second electrode with the third electrode, and  
the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode when a potential of the  
first electrode in the pair or second electrode with the greater binding capacity is high.

32. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 31, wherein  
one of the electrodes ~~in the pair~~ of the first electrode and second electrode is a  
scan electrode ~~[[and]]~~ the other electrode ~~in the pair~~ is a sustain electrode, and  
the third electrode is a data electrode.

33. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:  
a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a  
third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair first and second  
electrode to define a discharge cell; and

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period  
and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a  
voltage to the first electrode pair, and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge  
between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein~~

the drive unit ~~includes~~ comprising :

a detection subunit operable to detect a characteristic of an image for display by  
the panel unit; and

a control subunit operable to perform a control in the sustain period to change a  
potential of the third electrode according to the detected characteristic.

34. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 33, wherein the detection subunit detects a brightness average of the image as the characteristic.

35. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 34, wherein the detection subunit further detects a temperature of the panel unit as the characteristic, and the control subunit conducts the control based on the detected brightness average and temperature.

36. (Currently Amended) The plasma display panel device of claim 33, wherein a waveform of the voltage applied to the third electrode in the sustain period is a pulse waveform; and the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge corresponds to a fall in the pulse waveform.

37. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 33, wherein the voltage waveform applied to the third electrode in the sustain period is in synchronization with the voltage waveform applied to the electrode pair.

38. (Original) The plasma display panel device of claim 33, wherein the control by the control subunit is conducted at a fall time of the voltage waveform applied to the third electrode in the sustain period.

39. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:  
a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair the first and second electrodes to define a discharge cell; and

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first electrode and second electrode so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein and~~

in the sustain period, the drive unit performs a control in which a potential of the third electrode is changed during the sustain discharge, so as to hasten the generation of the sustain discharge in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

40. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:

a panel unit having first substrate and second ~~substrates~~ substrate that face each other across a discharge space, a ~~pair of a~~ first electrode and a second electrode being provided on the first substrate, and a phosphor layer and a third electrode that intersects the first electrode and second electrode ~~pair~~ to define a discharge cell ~~being provided~~ on the second substrate,

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein and~~

in the sustain period, the drive unit performs a control in which a potential of the third electrode is changed during the sustain discharge, so as to shift a region in which the sustain discharge is generated closer to the phosphor layer in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

41. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:

a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair the first and second electrode to define a discharge cell; and

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein~~ and

in the sustain period, the drive unit performs a control in which a potential of the third electrode is changed during the sustain discharge, so as to shift a discharge path of the sustain discharge closer to the third electrode in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

42. (Currently Amended) A plasma display panel device, comprising:

a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair first and second electrodes to define a discharge cell; and

a drive unit that drives the panel unit using a drive method having a write period and a sustain period, by applying, in the sustain period, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first electrode and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes in the sustain period, ~~wherein~~ and

in the sustain period, the drive unit performs a control in which a potential of the third electrode is changed during the sustain discharge, so as to lengthen a discharge path of the sustain discharge in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

43. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair the first and second electrode to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, by applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first electrode and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes, ~~wherein and~~

in the sustain step, the drive unit changes a potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge.

44. (Original) The drive method of claim 43, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge is a decrease from a potential V1 to a potential V2.

45. (Original) The drive method of claim 44, wherein  
in the sustain step, the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode from a potential V0 to the potential V1.

46. (Original) The drive method of claim 45, wherein  
the potentials V0 and V2 are equal.

47. (Original) The drive method of claim 45, wherein  
the potentials V0 and V2 are set in a range that will not cause a discharge to occur between the third electrode and the first or second electrode.

48. (Original) The drive method of claim 43, wherein  
a waveform of the voltage applied to the third electrode in the sustain step is a pulse waveform, and

the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge corresponds to a fall in the pulse waveform.

49. (Original) The drive method of claim 43, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a period equal to 80 % of a time constant of the sustain discharge.

50. (Original) The drive method of claim 43, wherein  
a waveform of the voltage applied to the electrode pair in the sustain step has a slope requiring a duration T to at least one of rise and fall.

51. (Original) The drive method of claim 50, wherein  
T is in a range having a width of  $\pm 20\%$  with respect to a reference value in a range of 250 nsec to 800 nsec.

52. (Original) The drive method of claim 51, wherein  
the reference value of T is in a range of 250 nsec to 500 nsec.

53. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 50, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the ~~electrode pair~~ first electrode and second electrode in the sustain step is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low potentials, the high periods being of equal duration to the low periods, and  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second electrodes begins to change.

54. (Original) The drive method of claim 53, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 occurs in a range  
of  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first  
and second electrode begins to change.

55. (Original) The drive method of claim 53, wherein  
the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential V1 to a potential V2  
in the range.

56. (Original) The drive method of claim 53, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage  
waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.

57. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 50, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and second electrode in  
the sustain step is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low potentials,  
the high periods being longer than the low periods, and  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of  $T - 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$   
to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second  
electrodes begins to change.

58. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 57, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 occurs in a range  
of  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first  
and second electrodes begins to change.

59. (Original) The drive method of claim 57, wherein  
the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential V1 to a potential V2  
in the range.
60. (Original) The drive method of claim 57, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage  
waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.
61. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 50, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode pair and second electrode in  
the sustain step is a pulse waveform that alternates repeatedly between high and low potentials,  
the high periods being shorter than the low periods, and  
the change in the potential of the third electrode occurs in a range of (i)  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.35 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first and second  
electrodes begins to rise, or (ii)  $T - 0.45 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T - 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied  
to at least one of the first and second electrodes begins to fall.
62. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 61, wherein  
the change in the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 occurs in a range  
of (i)  $T + 0.05 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T + 0.25 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage waveform applied to at least one of the first  
and second electrodes begins to rise, or (ii)  $T - 0.35 \mu\text{sec}$  to  $T - 0.15 \mu\text{sec}$  after the voltage  
waveform applied to at least one of the first and second electrodes begins to fall.
63. (Original) The drive method of claim 61, wherein  
the potential of the third electrode decreases from a potential V1 to a potential V2  
in the range.

64. (Original) The drive method of claim 61, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the first electrode is out of phase with the voltage waveform applied to the second electrode by a half cycle.

65. (Currently amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first electrode, ~~[[and]]~~ a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting that intersects the electrode pair the first electrode and second electrode to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, by applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first electrode and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes, wherein

in the sustain step, the drive unit changes a potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1 prior to the sustain discharge, and from V1 to V2 after the sustain discharge, and  
the potentials V0, V1 and V2 are set so that  $V1 > V0$  and  $V1 > V2$ , or  $V0 > V1$  and  $V2 > V1$ .

66. (Original) The drive method of claim 65, wherein  
in the sustain step, the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1 prior to a first sustain discharge, sustains the potential V1, and decreases the potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 after a second sustain discharge that is subsequent to the first sustain discharge.

67. (Original) The drive method of claim 66, wherein  
in the sustain step, the drive unit decreases the potential of the third electrode from V0 to V1 prior to a first sustain discharge, sustains the potential V1, and increases the

potential of the third electrode from V1 to V2 after a second sustain discharge that is subsequent to the first sustain discharge.

68. (Original) The drive method of claim 65, wherein  
a cycle of the voltage waveform applied to the third electrode in the sustain step is  
an integer multiple of a cycle of the voltage waveform applied to the electrode pair.

69. (Currently Amended) The drive method of claim 65, wherein  
a binding capacity of the first electrode with the third electrode is different from a  
binding capacity of the second electrode with the third electrode, and  
the drive unit increases the potential of the third electrode when a potential of the  
first electrode in the pair and the second electrode with the greater binding capacity is high.

70. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that  
includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode, and a third  
electrode, the third electrode intersecting the first electrode and second electrode ~~that intersects~~  
~~the electrode pair~~ to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using  
the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, the drive method comprising:

~~[[by]]~~ applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage  
to the first electrode and second electrode ~~electrode pair~~, so as to generate a sustain discharge  
between the first and second electrodes, ~~wherein;~~

~~the drive unit detects~~ detecting a characteristic of an image ~~[[for]]~~ to be displayed  
by the panel unit; ~~and performs a control in the sustain step to change~~ changing a potential of the  
third electrode according to the detected characteristic during the sustain step.

71. (Original) The drive method of claim 70, wherein  
the drive unit detects a brightness average of the image as the characteristic.

72. (Original) The drive method of claim 71, wherein  
the drive unit further detects a temperature of the panel unit as the characteristic,  
and conducts the control based on the detected brightness average and temperature.
73. (Original) The drive method of claim 70, wherein  
a waveform of the voltage applied to the third electrode in the sustain step is a  
pulse waveform;  
the change in the potential of the third electrode during the sustain discharge  
corresponds to a fall in the pulse waveform.
74. (Original) The drive method of claim 70, wherein  
the voltage waveform applied to the third electrode in the sustain step is in  
synchronization with the voltage waveform applied to the electrode pair.
75. (Original) The drive method of claim 70, wherein  
in the sustain step, the control by the drive unit is conducted at a fall time of the  
voltage waveform applied to the third electrode.
76. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that  
includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first [[and]] electrode, a second electrode, and a third  
electrode, the third electrode intersecting the first and second electrode that intersects the  
~~electrode pair~~ to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using  
[[the]] a drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, the drive method comprising:  
[[by]] applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage  
to the electrode pair, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second  
electrodes; ~~wherein~~ and

~~in the sustain step, the drive unit performs a control in which changing~~ a potential of the third electrode ~~is changed~~ during the sustain discharge, so as to hasten the generation of the sustain discharge in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

77. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting the first and second electrodes ~~that intersects the electrode pair~~ to define a discharge cell, and a phosphor layer disposed over the third electrode, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, the drive method comprising:

~~[[by]]~~ applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the first electrode pair, and the second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes, ~~wherein ; and~~

~~in the sustain step, the drive unit performs a control in which changing~~ a potential of the third electrode ~~is changed~~ during the sustain discharge, so as to shift a region in which the sustain discharge is generated closer to the phosphor layer in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

78. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting the first and second electrode ~~that intersects the electrode pair~~ to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, the drive method comprising:

~~[[by]]~~ applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, first and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes, ~~wherein ; and~~

~~in the sustain step, the drive unit performs a control in which~~ changing a potential of the third electrode ~~is changed~~ during the sustain discharge, so as to shift a discharge path of the sustain discharge closer to the third electrode in comparison to when the potential is not changed.

79. (Currently Amended) A drive method for a plasma display panel device that includes (i) a panel unit having ~~a pair of~~ a first ~~[[and]]~~ electrode, a second electrode, and a third electrode, the third electrode intersecting the first and second electrode ~~that intersects the electrode pair~~ to define a discharge cell, and (ii) a drive unit that drives the panel unit using the drive method, which has a write step and a sustain step, the drive method comprising:

~~[[by]]~~ applying, in the sustain step, a voltage to the third electrode and a voltage to the ~~electrode pair~~, the first and second electrode, so as to generate a sustain discharge between the first and second electrodes, ~~wherein ; and~~

~~in the sustain step, the drive unit performs a control in which a~~ changing potential of the third electrode ~~is changed~~ during the sustain discharge, so as to lengthen a discharge path of the sustain discharge in comparison to when the potential is not changed.